Attorney Docket No. NIU-06-5313R

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patentee: STANLEY J. SWARTZEL ET AL.	
Assignee: NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	)
US Patent No. 6,844,821	)
Issued: January 18, 2005	)
Serial No.: 10/074,278 )	,
Filed: February 12, 2002 )	)
Title: ELECTRONIC DISPLAY SYSTEM TAG, ) RELATED INTERFACE PROTOCOL )	`

## ASSERTION OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS - 37 CFR 1.27(c)(1)

Mail Stop M Correspondence Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The above patent issued to, Stanley J. Swartzel and Kenneth M. Kiplinger. By way of assignment recorded June 9, 2006 at Reel 017766, Frame 0962, the Assignee, Illinois Tool Works, Inc., signed its rights to the following entity:

## **NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

The assignee, NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, qualifies for small entity status for the subject patent, on the basis of 37 C.F.R. 1.27(a)(1). Therefore, the instant Assertion of Small Entity Status by writing is being made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.27(c)(1).

The undersigned is an attorney registered with the U.S. Patent Office.

This assertion of small entity status is being made, in particular, in advance of the maintenance fee due July 18, 2012.

Respectfully submitted

R. Blake Johnston Reg. No. 41,097

Dated: August 21, 2008

DLA PIPER US LLP PATENT GROUP 203 N. LaSalle St., Suite 1900 Chicago, Illinois 60601

Phone: (312) 368-4000 Fax: (312) 236-7516